



NATIONAL  
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# WEATHER & CROPS



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**Week Ending: August 29, 2010**

**Number: 25**

**Released: August 30, 2010**

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## WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29, 2010

Scattered showers brought some relief in some areas around the state. Days suitable for field work were 6.3. Other areas continued to suffer from dry conditions which caused some areas to request disaster relief assistance. Soybeans, cotton, and peanuts responded extremely well to the much needed moisture. Pastures and hayfields are responding well and are greening up. Producers continued to scout and treat soybeans for corn earworms. Vegetable and fruit crops are doing well.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 1, 2010	48	35	17	0
August 8, 2010	35	38	27	0
August 15, 2010	35	37	28	0
August 22, 2010	19	29	49	3
August 29, 2010	24	36	39	1

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	16	39	30	14	1
Livestock	2	7	32	51	8
Hay, Other	15	32	36	15	2
Hay, Alfalfa	8	12	42	34	4
Corn	35	22	32	10	1
Soybeans	12	22	37	28	1
Tobacco, Flue-cured	7	14	27	42	10
Tobacco, Burley	6	4	10	71	9
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	6	30	42	22	0
Peanuts	11	22	52	15	0
Cotton	9	28	46	17	0
Apples, All	5	18	57	16	4
Grapes	0	0	17	57	26

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	91	89	87	89
Corn Dent	73	69	65	70
Corn Mature	54	44	43	38
Corn Harvested for Grain	23	8	1	1
Corn Silage Harvested	68	62	52	46
Soybeans Blooming	95	90	93	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	80	55	78	80
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	1	N/A	2	1
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	38	27	47	38
Burley Tobacco Harvested	23	17	12	13
Dark Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	42	38	59	34
Peanuts Pegged	92	91	100	100
Cotton Setting Bolls	94	91	100	100
Cotton Bolls Opening	9	4	27	35
Summer Apples Harvested	90	85	78	90
Fall Apples Harvested	17	12	8	15
Peaches Harvested	79	75	85	91

### VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29, 2010

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug 28	Mar. 1 to Aug 28 Normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	82	64	91	60	73	0	3308	2906	2.93	6.06	-2.12	25.78	-0.52
Norfolk	83	72	90	68	78	1	3791	3224	5.86	9.62	0.72	29.26	1.92
Richmond	85	68	90	65	77	1	3754	3171	1.27	2.09	-6.27	18.88	-6.98
Roanoke	83	65	89	61	74	0	3482	NA	5.77	7.05	-0.61	24.39	-1.28
Wash/Dulles	83	65	88	60	74	0	3396	NA	4.18	5.47	-2.12	22.09	-2.45

\* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

## REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

### NORTHERN

#### CLARKE (Jacob Grove)

Slight recovery in some of our pastures and hayfields, most of the growth is coming from volunteer summer annuals.

#### FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

Received a few showers. Producers are reporting low yields for corn, hay and alfalfa.

### CENTRAL

#### AMELIA (Joan D. Poore)

The past week has been favorable for most crops. Drying and curing hay was better toward the latter of the week. For the past two weeks those that received portions of rain during that time has made a significant difference in their crops.

Unfortunately, not all areas of the county received the same amounts. Some only received 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch while other 1.5 to 2.5 over the past 2 weeks. Early soybeans and tobacco are looking like they may make a decent crop provided the weather conditions continue to hold up through harvest. Late soybeans may not make their expected yields.

#### CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions have improved greatly. Some farmers are getting another cutting of hay, and pastures have greened up. Soybeans are looking much better, but will need continued rainfall to finish well and fill out pods. Grain farmers have been working up land that was in corn for wheat, barley, and cover crops. There will not be much corn to harvest. Melon and sweet corn crop harvest is slowing down. Pumpkins and winter squash are coming on for September and October harvest.

#### CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Weather conditions have been more favorable in the past two weeks than they have been all summer. Again rain from late evening storms continue to be scattered, everyone is not receiving the same amount of rain, and some not at all. There is much improvement overall with the day and night temperatures being moderate.

### EASTERN

#### ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

No rainfall this week, and topsoil moisture is quickly being depleted. Late soybeans need rainfall to fill pods. Farmers continued to scout soybeans for corn earworms and treat when needed. Corn harvest progressed at a rapid rate due to the poor crop.

### SOUTHWESTERN

#### MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

A much cooler week (temperatures more near average) with some precipitation. Corn is rebounding, especially what was planted late. Hayfields and pastures are greening up, though growth won't be enough for some livestock producers. Many are feeding hay or grain now or have turned livestock in on hayfields, thus eliminating a 2nd cutting. Vegetable and fruit crops are doing well, especially those on irrigation. Foliar diseases and subsequent pre-mature defoliation are of main concern to most vegetable growers now. Pumpkins looking good if irrigated.

#### SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Damages were less than expected due to flooding last week. Some vegetable crops are going down, but most are going to be harvestable.

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## REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

### SOUTHEASTERN

#### BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L Gregg)

Lower humidity was a nice change from weeks past. The request for excessive heat and drought disaster designation has been requested by the Governor. Some producers are cutting some hay and alfalfa at this point, yield is lower than hoped as quality may be taking a hit too. Some tobacco producers are beginning to strip flue cured tobacco for curing. Soybeans are starting to turn yellow and have leaf drop. Corn silage is harvested at this point, low yield and quality is in the silage. Fall calf sales are in full swing. Fall calving of some heifers is getting ready to begin next month and producers are preparing for that at this time as well.

#### ISLE OF WIGHT (Janice Spencer)

Temperatures this week in Isle of Wight and Suffolk have been much milder than we have previously seen. Even so, rainfall was very limited in these areas. Crops, such as peanut and soybeans, which were beginning to improve last week, suffered a setback because of continued dry conditions.

#### SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Varying rains across the county have been helpful. Soybeans, cotton and peanuts should respond well. Producers are scouting and treating fields for corn earworm. Many fields have already been treated. Pastures are improving but renewed growth is slow. Corn harvest is underway with many very low yields.

#### SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Dry conditions continued, insect spraying was going out on soybeans for second and sometimes third time. Corn harvest is underway with very low yields.



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